

Los Angeles Museum
Exposition Park
Los Angeles, Calif.
May 8, 1934.

Mr. Elmer S. Riggs
Field Museum of Natural History
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Riggs:

For two reasons I failed to reply to your first letter enclosing the questionnaire. First, I hesitated because I am no longer a member of the Paleontological Society and felt that perhaps I had no right to take part in its decisions. And secondly, I didn't feel that I understood the situation well enough to give an opinion regarding affiliation of the vertebrate section of the society.

However, since you have written again, I will endeavor to answer. Certainly the matter is an important one, and a change from the present policy is undoubtedly necessary if the interest of vertebrate paleontologists is to be held. I would, indeed welcome a real live organization of vertebrate paleontologists.

In the matter of affiliation, I would favor severing the connection with the Paleontological Society and the G. S. A. Invertebrate and vertebrate paleontologists seem to approach paleontology from quite different angles and have but little common interest. The G.S.A. can always be joined separately if vertebrate paleontologists feel they need it. It seems to me that the vertebrate paleontologist's interests are more biological than geological. However, the matter of publications is something to be considered; if by staying with the two aforementioned societies, we could insure publication of vertebrate paleontological material, it might be worth while. On the other hand, wouldn't it be possible for a separate organization to start its own publication, much as the Cooper Ornithological Club has done with the Condor? I do feel that while the society is being revised, the matter of publications should be considered. It seems too bad that vertebrate paleontologists must depend so largely upon the Journal of Mammalogy or the Auk or Condor, etc. for the publication of their short papers. Also I think the presence of a good publication connected with a society -- so that members can keep more closely in touch with the work of fellow members, has a great deal to do with attracting members. It is certainly so in my own case; I cannot afford to do without the Condor, Auk, or Science, so for that reason, if for no other, I would want to continue my membership in the organizations which publish them. Of course the matter of publications is a side issue to the question at hand, and yet might have some bearing upon affiliations.

As to whether my choice would be d or e on the questionnaire: wouldn't it be possible to affiliate with the A.A.A.S. and still meet when we chose, at other times, as well -- perhaps sectionally? I thought all of the best scientific societies had some affiliation with the A.A.A.S. even though they had their own meetings other than the ones held with the larger organization.

With apologies for making it necessary for you to write to me again regarding the questionnaire -- I shall be most interested in the final outcome.

Sincerely,

The Paleontological Society

Organized February 13, 1909

January 4, 1939

OFFICE OF THE TREASURER

Miss Hildegard Howard
Los Angeles Museum
Los Angeles, Cal.

Dear Miss Howard:

It is my duty and pleasure to inform you that you were elected a Member of The Paleontological Society at the annual meeting held recently in New York. Enclosed is a bill for annual dues which are to be paid in advance.

Very truly yours,

R. R. Shrock

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AND MINERALOGISTS

A DIVISION OF THE AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF PETROLEUM GEOLOGISTS
BUSINESS OFFICE
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May 16, 1939

Paleo Soc

Miss Hildegarde Howard
Los Angeles Museum
Los Angeles, California

Dear Miss Howard:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your card relative
to the membership list of the Paleontological Society
published in the Journal of Paleontology.

I shall make the correction immediately.

Very truly yours,

Norman D. Newell

Norman D. Newell, Editor
Journal of Paleontology

NDN/MYI

THE PALEONTOLOGICAL SOCIETY

B. F. HOWELL, *Secretary*

Princeton, New Jersey

August 16th, 1939

My dear Miss Howard:-

Your letter of last July did not reach me, because of my absence in the field, until too late for a reply to be of use to you.

I must, however, apologize to you for the failure of the office of the Secretary of the Pacific Coast Branch to notify you of the summer meeting.

In seeking to learn how it happened that you did not receive a notice, I examined the membership list of the Paleontological Society which was used by the office of the Secretary of the Pacific Coast Branch in mailing out notices of the meeting to the Members of the Society residing in the far West. To my surprise I discovered that the Editor of the Journal of Paleontology, when editing the proof of the membership list which was published in the May issue of the Journal, had inserted a comma in the wrong place, so that you are listed as Howard Hildegard, instead of Hildegarde Howard. I presume that a notice of the summer meeting was sent to you wrongly addressed because of this error. I apologize again for the office of the Editor.

I am writing to both the Editor and Treasurer of the Society to insure that this error is corrected. I am very sorry that it happened, and I hope that you will forgive us.

I hope that you learned from other sources of the date and place of the summer meeting, and that you were able to attend it.

Very sincerely yours,

B. F. Howell

Miss Hildegarde Howard
Los Angeles Museum
Los Angeles, Calif.